

Message Text

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SUBJECT: INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE UN

1. BESIDES FOREIGN MINISTER SWARAN SINGH, WHO HAS ALREADY LEFT, THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE 29TH UNGA INCLUDES THREE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND TWO OTHER POLITICIANS. TOGETHER THESE FIVE SPAN THE RANGE FROM CONSERVATIVE TO LEFTIST SUPPORTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE PROFESSIONALS ON THE DELEGATION ARE KEWAL SINGH, FOREIGN SECRETARY; R. JAIPAL, INDIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN; N. KRISHNAN, JOINT SECRETARY, UN AND CONFERENCE DIVISION IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; B. C. MISHRA, INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO GENEVA; AND DR. S. P. JAGOTA, JOINT SECRETARY, LEGAL DIVISION, MEA. USUN AND THE DEPARTMENT HAVE HAD REGULAR DEALINGS WITH ALL OF THESE.

2. HERE IS A RUNDOWN ON THE POLITICIANS, WHICH INCLUDES MUCH INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY CONGEN CALCUTTA:

CAPTAIN WILLIAMSON SANGMA: CHIEF MINISTER OF MEGHALAYA; BORN OCTOBER 18, 1919; A CHRISTIAN, METHODIST; WORLD WAR 11 BRITISH ARMY BACKGROUND, ATTAINING THE RANK OF CAPTAIN; A JEEP DRIVER; A DRINKER OF PRODIGIOUS AMOUNTS OF WHISKEY; EXTREMELY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE WEST; STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST; TOUGH, HIGHLY RESPECTED, LEADER OF ASSAM TRIBALS' PEACEFUL STRUGGLE FOR SEPARATE STATEHOOD; FRIENDLY

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AND HOSPITABLE TO OFFICIALS OF OUR CONSULATE GENERAL IN

CALCUTTA DURING THE VERY LEAN 1972-73 YEARS WHEN THEY VISITED SHILLONG; THEY ALSO SEE HIM WHEN HE PASSES THROUGH CALCUTTA (HE SOMETIMES INITIATES CONTACT). WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT HE WOULD BE A USEFUL CONTACT FOR THE US DELEGATION.

HOKISHE SEMA: AGE 53, FORMER (UNTIL 1974) CHIEF MINISTER OF NAGALAND; A CHRISTIAN (AMERICAN BAPTIST); DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM WHOM HE INVITED TO NAGALAND IN NOVEMBER 1972; SOME TYPE OF CHURCH OFFICIAL HIMSELF, HE GOES ANNUALLY TO THE US FOR THE AMERICAN BAPTIST CONVENTIONS; ALTHOUGH FRIENDLY WITH SANGMA, OF A VERY DIFFERENT STRIPE; HE DRINKS WHISKEY IN MODERATE AMOUNTS; HAS NOT BEEN MEETING WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN CALCUTTA FOR SOME YEARS (NEITHER SIDE INITIATES CONTACTS); HIGHLY RESPECTED IN DELHI AND LEADER OF THE NAGA NATIONALIST ORGANIZATION WHICH FAVORS STRONGLY ANTI-INSURGENT MEASURES AND VERY CLOSE LIAISON WITH DELHI; LIKE MOST NAGA LEADERS, EXTREMELY PRO-WESTERN WITH CLOSE TIES, THROUGH THE CHURCH, WITH AMERICANS.

DINESH C. GOSWAMI: YOUNG (39) AND FAIRLY UNDISTINGUISHED CONGRESS MP FROM ASSAM. HE STUDIED ECONOMICS, PRACTICED LAW, AND IS SPECIALIZING IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN PARLIAMENT. A CONGRESS PROGRESSIVE, HE HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT OF AN ENIGMA TO US. AT ONE POINT HE SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO AVOID SEEING US. WHEN HE HAS SEEN US, HE HAS HEWED CAUTIOUSLY TO THE PARTY LINE AND HASN'T SAID MUCH. HE RECENTLY TOLD AN INDIAN EMPLOYEE OF OUR CONSULATE GENERAL IN CALCUTTA THAT HE NOW WISHES TO ESTABLISH A "RELATIONSHIP" WITH THE CONSULATE GENERAL, WHATEVER THAT MEANS.

AMJAD ALI: (YOUNG (34) CONGRESS RAJYA SABHA (UPPER HOUSE) MEMBER FROM WEST BENGAL, HOWRAH DISTRICT; ONE OF THE CONGRESS YOUNG TURKS; CLOSE TO THE PRO-CPI GROUP WITHIN THE PARTY. HIS YOUNGER BROTHER IS NOW AT LUMUMBA UNIVERSITY UNDER A SOVIET GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP. THIS NOTWITHSTANDING, WE ARE TOLD THAT LIKE SEVERAL OF THE PRO-CPI CONGRESS MEMBERS IN WEST BENGAL, HE IS BASICALLY ANTI-COMMUNIST. WE'RE NOT TOO SURE WHAT THIS MEANS BUT WOULD ASSUME THAT HE WILL NOT BE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE US (CERTAINLY NOT IN COMPARISON TO THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE). HIS LAST SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS MENTIONED CHILE, CYPRUS, VIETNAM AND THE "FORCES OF COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM", BUT DIDN'T NAME THE US EXPLICITLY.

P. PARTHASARATHY: AN OLDER (58) MP FROM
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ANDHRA PRADESH WHO ROSE TO THE LEVEL OF DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP IN THE LOWER HOUSE FROM 1967-70 AND THEN TO DEPUTY MINISTER (OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS) IN 1970-71. LATER, AS SECRETARY OF THE NEHRU STUDY FORUM FACTION WITHIN THE CONGRESS PARTY, HE ACCUSED THE RIVAL SOCIALIST FORUM OF WANTING INDIA TO BECOME A SATELLITE OF THE SOVIET UNION. HE HEADS THE ANDHRA PRADESH HORTICULTURE ASSOCIATION AND VISITED THE US IN 1958 UNDER AN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, HE IS NO RE-

LATION TO THE FORMER INDIAN PERMREP, G. PARTHASARATHY.

3. WILL ADVISE TRAVEL PLANS.
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